

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 01796 241436Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
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INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 01796

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT
DOE PASS AMMONS,IA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IAEA, TECH, PARM, US, MX
SUBJECT: RESEARCH REACTOR TRANSFER

REF: MEXICO 02963

1. UPON RECEIPT AND REVIEW OF REFTEL, WE WERE INCLINED
TO BELIEVE THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROPOSED TRANSFER OF
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH REACTOR TO MEXICO WOULD
NOT RPT NOT BE PURSUED FURTHER, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT
OF PARA 2 REFTEL.

2. MUCH TO OUR SURPRISE, HOWEVER, AGENCY LEGAL DIVISION
STAFF MEMBER HAS INFORMED MISOFF THAT, UPON INSTRUCTIONS,
MEXICAN AMBASSADOR HAS FORMALLY NOTIFIED IAEA THAT, IF
IAEA BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO REACH A
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 01796 241436Z

COMPROMISE ON THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES (NOT RPT NOT
STATED, BUT PRESUMED TO BE THE SAFEGUARDS ARTICLE),
GOM WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON THE
APPROPRIATE PROJECT/SUPPLY AGREEMENT. AGENCY LEGAL
STAFF MEMBER BELIEVES RECENT CONCLUSION OF ARGENTINA/
PERU/IAEA/U.S. SUPPLY AGREEMENT WHICH DOES NOT RPT NOT
CONTAIN ALL THE PROVISIONS IN THE LAST DRAFT GIVEN TO

MEXICO, MAY HAVE BEEN A FACTOR IN RENEWED MEXICAN INTEREST. (WHAT THEY MAY NOT RPT NOT KNOW, HOWEVER, IS THE FACT THAT THE PROPOSED U.S. EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH PERU CONTAINS ALL OF THE PROVISIONS LEFT OUT OF THE AGREEMENT PLUS OTHERS RESULTING FROM RECENTLY PASSED NON-PROLIFERATION LEGISLATION.) AGENCY, OF COURSE, WOULD

LIKE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY, BUT BEFORE DOING SO, WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER OR NOT REACTOR IN QUESTION IS STILL AVAILABLE AND OFFER STILL STANDS.

3. MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS TRANSACTION, SINCE THIS COULD LEAD TO SOME SOLUTIONS OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS INVOLVING TRANSFER OF FUEL FOR LAGUNA VERDE PLANT, AS WELL AS ISSUES RELATED TO LONGER TERM U.S.-MEXICAN COOPERATIONIN THE NUCLEAR FIELD.

4. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST WHETHER OR NOT RESEARCH REACTOR IS STILL AVAILABLE AND HOW WE SHOULD ADVISE AGENCY TO PROCEED. LABOWITZ

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Message Attributes

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